

MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

To: The Governing Board

FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: November 1, 2006

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI: Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of private funding to acquire APN 2543-021-013 in Shadow Hills and subsequent granting of limited access easements to abutting properties, Los Angeles.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of private funding to acquire APN 2543-021-013 in Shadow Hills and subsequent granting of limited access easements to abutting properties, Los Angeles.

Background: The MRCA entered into a chapter 8 agreement with the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector to acquire APN 2543-021-013 in Shadow Hills. The MRCA is slated to receive a series of conservation easements directly north of the subject property. It was anticipated that private funding would be used to acquire the subject property. At least three private properties take access across the 0.77 acre subject lot on an existing poorly maintained dirt road. Staff intent was to receive public funding and grant access rights to whatever owners funded the acquisition to the property. None of the owners have stepped forward to fund the acquisition. Technically, staff has approximately two weeks from the meeting date to fund the acquisition unless given an extension by the Treasurer and Tax Collector's office. Although it appears unlikely that funding will be secured staff recommends adopting the attached resolution because conditions may change. The majority of the property is grassland and one small gully containing native species such as Mexican elderberry.